GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2391
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016
Support to Special Category States
Adhikari Shri Sisir Kumar

Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government has proposed to discontinue the support given to special category States of the entire North Eastern Region;
(b) if so, the reasons therefor;
(c) the details of the last five years sponsored outlet schemes funded under 90:10 pattern; and
(d) the present status of the said schemes?

Answer

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
[Dr. Jitendra Singh]
(a) to (d) : The Fourteenth Finance Commission in its recommendations has not made any distinction between Special Category States and General Category States in applying the horizontal devolution formula. The recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission which have been accepted by the Union Government provide for higher devolution of 42% of the divisible pool of resources as against 32% recommended by the Thirteenth Finance Commission. This has increased the quantum of fund flow to the States. Block Grants viz., Normal Central Assistance (NCA), Special Central Assistance (ACA) and Special Plan Assistance (SPA) have not been provided since Union Budget 2015-16 (Plan). The State Governments have been requested to utilize enhanced fund flow due to increase in devolution of divisible pool of resources for completion of on-going projects. Limited financial assistance was also provided during the financial year 2015-16 out of Demand No. 37 of Union Budget 2015-16.
Under the rationalized Centrally Sponsored Schemes, 90:10 sharing pattern for the North Eastern States have been continued in respect to 6 "Core of the Core Schemes" and 20 "Core Schemes". For the 2 Optional Schemes, the funding pattern for NE States would be 80:20. The list of Centrally Sponsored Schemes is at Annexure-I. It has also been decided to continue with existing pattern of transfers for externally aided projects for North East and Himalayan States in the grant:loan ratio of 90:10 during the Fourteenth Finance Commission award period.